



## DIocese of YOUNGSTOWN

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

January 24, 2017

Reverend John P. Zapp  
Pastor  
Holy Spirit Church  
2952 Edison Street, N.W.  
Uniontown, Ohio 44685

Dear Fr. Zapp and the Leadership Committee of Holy Spirit Parish,

I wish to commend you for putting together a leadership plan for Holy Spirit Parish. The time and effort spent in study, prayer, discussions, and the formulation of a plan for the future show your vitality as a parish community and are an asset to the planning efforts of the diocese. While we face many challenges as a diocesan community, the commitment of the people of God using their time, talent, and treasure ensures that the ministry of the Church continues.

I also wish to affirm that the diocese has no intention of closing Holy Spirit Parish. Because of the long tradition of strong lay leadership and the vibrant community life, Holy Spirit Parish is an ideal candidate to be considered for the Parish Leader form of parish leadership upon Father John's retirement.

I hope that you continue to prepare for the future by strengthening the community in faith, building strong relationships, forming missionary disciples, empowering more lay leadership, and collaborating with areas parishes. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and strengthen you and the community of Holy Spirit Parish.

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend George V. Murry, S.J.  
Bishop of Youngstown